

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 01569 070817Z
ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /004 W
-----118857 070836Z /14
R 040745Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5028

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1569

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

FOR EUR/EE 3 COPIES ONLY

FOR SCHMIDT FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. SHIP VISIT. THE PROPOSED VISIT OF A US FRIGATE TO VARNHAAS BEEN TURNED DOWN BY THE BULGARIANS BECAUSE THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE CANNOT "ACCOMMODATE" THE VISIT. THE MFA EMPHASIZES THAT THIS "TECHNICAL" CONSIDERATION, AND NOT ANY POLITICAL REAYEN, IS ALL THAT IS INVOLVED. PREVIOUS MESSAGES CONCERNING A POSSIBLE SHIP VISIT HAVE BEEN IN DEFENSE CHANNELS, AS IS ANOTHER MESSAGE YESTERDAY REPORTING THE TURN-DOWN.

2. KOLEVA CASE. WE RECEIVED ON JULY 31 A COPY OF A POWER OF ATTORNEY WHICH THE KOLEVS APPARENTLY INTENDED (AS OF JULY 10) TO FORWARD TO AN ATTORNEY IN SOFIA TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE REPRESENTED AT THE AUGUST 31 COURT PROCEEDING IN SEVLIEVO. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF, IN FACT, THE KOLEVS HAVE FORWARDED THE DOCUMENT TO THE LAWYER SO THAT MIKE MOZUR MIGHT CALL ON THE LAWYER IN ORDER TO CONFIRM ITS RECEIPT AND LEARN THE ATTORNEY'S VIEWS ON THE CASE.
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WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THERE HAVE BEEN ANY OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CASE WHICH MIGHT BE OF INTEREST, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO OUR RECENT CABLE (SOFIA 1351).

3. CHANCERY SITE. WE ARE SENDING A MESSAGE NOTING THE GENERAL SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO THE QUEST FOR A NEW CHANCERY SITE, AND URGING RETENTION INTO THE NEW FISCAL

YEAR OF THE MONEY AT PRESENT SET ASIDE FOR SOFIA. WE
WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW WHEN THE BULGARIANS ARE SIGNING
THE LEASE FOR THE VAN NESS PROPERTIES, SINCE THAT INVOLVES
A LARGE DOWN PAYMENT AND MAY REDUCE BULGARIAN INCLINATION
TO HELP US FIND A SITE IN TIME TO EFFECT A NO-MONEY TRADE.
GARTHOFF

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA01569
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780332-0102, D780321-0028
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780897/aaaaddmd.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e2ea356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1834165
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL
TAGS: OGEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e2ea356a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014